538 He cuts off the fingers with which he has
533 touched her dress and takes her back to his friend. Another recurrent theme is that of the mother who suckles the man whose blood is sought by her son, thus establishing a milk relationship, and ending the feud, "sparing the lives of two sons rather than losing her only one." In the genre of humoristic tales, Nasreddin Hoja stories enjoy wide popularity in the Caucasus.

533 Formerly the epical and historical songs were recited by bards, usually liberated serfs, who found employment in the houses of princes and nobles. They accompanied themselves on string instruments.

The characteristic feature in W. Georgian music is part-singing of men's choirs, the second voice, called k'rimanch'uli, executing improvised wordless flourishes in the highest falsetto. In the N.W. Caucasus a solo voice sings the words of the song, the choir accompaning it unisono in long-drawn tones as a kind of organ point, or with an independent melody. Dances are accompanied
535 [534] by musical instruments: in Georgia, bagpipes (zazandari), lute (ch'onguri), violin with spherical body (ch'ianuri), several kinds of flutes (duduki, zurna, salamuri) and drums (dali, diplipito); in the N. Caucasus, a two-stringed violin, flutes and castanets. The most popular Caucasian dance is the so-called

535 Lezginka (Georg. lek'uri), performed by a man holding one hand on his breast and the other stretched sideways, and a woman who gracefully moves her arms up and down; both move in a circle keeping the upper part of the body as quiet as possible and moving only the legs. Now they dance together, then again the woman escapes and the man pursues her; the pair are never in contact.

7:Columbia U. S-4, 5 1956 RH1 Caucasia
RH1

532 2 Akopian, Amaiak Stepanovich
1871-1939. Armenian painter; his favorite subjects are scenes from old Tiflis; in Soviet period did many charcoal drawings. Studied in Munich.

BE II 1:607

665 2 Akopian, S. S.
Member of CC CP Arm. SSR, 18. s'ezd, 1956.

Kom. Er. 1/22/56

3 Alekperov, M. G
CC CP Azer. SSSR, 20. s'ezd, 1954

646 3 Alekperova, Shukhiufa Alekser kyzy
Deputy to Sov. Nats. VS SSSR (4. sozyv, 1954)

Bak. Rab. 3/19/54

535 1 Aleksidze, Irina Aleksandrovna
Stalin prize 2. class for ballet performances in 1950

Laur. Stalin prem. 1950
p. 81

646 4 Baskaev, Dzambolat Timofeevich
Sev. Osset. deputy Sov. Nats. VS SSSR, 4. sozyv, 1954

Pravda 3/18/54

• 535 1 Bauer, Maria Veniaminovna
Stalin prize 2. class, 1950 ballerina

Laur. Stalin prem. 1950
p. 81

646 1 Bazhunaishvili, Suleiman Dzhemalovich
Adzhar. deputy Sov. Nats. VS SSSR
4. sozyv, 1954
Born in Kveda-Sameba, 1922-
kolkhoz worker, member of CP

Bak. Rab. 3/18/54
Zar. Vost. 2/13/54

665 3 Begrambekov, B. L.
CC CP Azerb. SSR, 20 s'ezd, 1954

546 2 Bek-Nazarov, Amo Ivanovich
1892- Armenian film-producer; director of Tiflis Goskinprom. Directed films: Pepo, Zangezur, for which he was awarded Stalin prize in 1941. People's artist of Armenia.

BE II 4:405

646 6 Boitsov, Ivan Pavlovich
Member of Sov. Soiuz VS SSSR, 4. sozyv, 1954; Stavropol. krai

Bak. Rab. 3/18/54

5 Bondarchuk, Tat'iana Nikolaevna
Kab. deputy Sov. Nats. VS SSSR 4. sozyv, 1954

Pravda, 3/18/54

535 1 (?) Bregvadze, Boris Iakovlevich
Stalin prize 2. class, 1950; ballet dancer; for role in Ali-Batyr, performed in Leningr. gos. akad. teatr opery i baleta im. S.M. Kirova.

Laur. Stalin. prem. 1950
p. 81

665 3 Bulyga, A. E.
CC CP Azerb. SSR, 20. s'ezd, 1954.

646 665 2 Buniatian, Artavazd Avakovich
Deputy to Sov. Nats. VS SSSR, 4. sozyv, 1954. Member CC CP Arm. SSR, 17-18. s'ezd, 1954, 1956

Kom. Er. 3/19/54, 1/22/56

538 1 Kiacheli, Leo
(presently called:Shengelaia, Leon Mikhailovich). 1884-. Georgian writer; born in Obudzhi. Wrote Krov', Gvadi Bigva, 1938, for which he rec'd Stalin prize in 1941.

BE II 20:582

535 1 Kikaleishvili, Zurabu Malakievich.
People's artist of Georgia; Stalin prize winner for dance choreography. (Collaborated with Chabukiani on ballet Gorda.)

Zar. Vost. 2/30/55
Laur. Stalin. prem. 1950, p. 81

646 5 Khmelev, Ivan Fedorovich
Cherkes. deputy Sov. Nats. VS SSSR 4. sozyv, 1954.

Pravda 3/18/54

536 1 Khorava, Akakii Alekseevich
Deputy to Sov. Nats. VS SSSR (4. s'ezd, 1954). Born Ochkhomuri, 1895-. Actor (classical roles); director of Tiflis Rustaveli theatre (1949-); member of committee awarding Stalin prizes on lit. and drama. Won 5 Stalin prizes.

Bak. Rab. 3/19/54
Zar. Vost 2/13/54

7: Columbia U. S-4, 5 1956 RHl Caucasia RHl

532 1 Lansere, Evgenii Evgen'evich 1875-1946. Member of "mir iskusstva" school of painting; began painting with historical portraits. Painted: Zangezur 1926, Krasnye partizany Dagestana, 1931. Illustrated L. Tolstoy's Kazaky and Khadzhi Murat.

BE II 24: 283-4

535 1 Lapiashvili, Parnaoz Georgevich Stalin prize 2. class, for ballet performance in Gorda.

Laur. Stalin prem. 1950 p. 81

645 1 Leleshvili, M. M. Minister of transportation, Gruz. SSR, 1954.

Zar. Vost. 2/17/54

538 1
646 Leonidze, Georgii Nikolaevich, born in Patardzeuli 1889-. Georgian writer; depicts socialism. CP member since 1945. Deputy VS Gruz. SSR 3.sozyv. Started career as symbolist poet of "Golubye rogi" group. Later wrote: Leninu, 1936, Rodinu poiu, 1936. Stalin prize in 1941, 1952. Now works on history of Georgian lit. 17-19th c.

BE II 24-578

7: Columbia U. S-4,5 1956 RHl Caucasia
RHl

535
1 Mirtskhulave, Didim Lavrent'evich
Stalin prize 2. class, 1950. Conductor of Gorda ballet.

Laur. Stalin. prem. 1950
p. 81

538
1 Mitskhulava, Alio Andreevich, 1903-
(his literary pseud. Mashashvili). Georgian poet influenced by Maiakovskii. Gimn rodine, Enguri, etc.

BE II 27:588

535
1 Mirzoian, Ashot Oganesovich
Armenian ballet artist; Stalin prize 3. class, 1950.

Laur. Stalin. prem. 1950
p. 80

533
2 Mirzoian, M. 1888
Armenian composer

BE I 1:478

401
2 Mkrtchian, Derenik Petrovich
Stalin prize 3. class, 1950 for tool building methods.

Laur. Stalin. prem. 1950
p. 28

RHI

645
625 1 Tsereteli, S.S.
Former deputy People's Commissar and deputy Minister for Internal Affairs. Executed Nov. 1955, for alleged treason, counter-revolutionary crimes, for bringing false accusations ("slanderous evidence" against Ordzhonikidze); tried under Soviet criminal code 58 (high treason) in Sept. 1955 in Tiflis by military collegium of Soviet Supreme Court, headed by Lieut. Gen. A.A Cheptsov.

NYT
Zaria Vost.

535
1 Tsignadze, Vera Varlamovna
Stalin prize 2. class, 1950 for ballet role in Gorda ballet.

Laur. Stalin. prem. 1950
p. 81

646
645 1
665 Tsimakuridze, Kondratii Sokratovich
Deputy to Sov. Nats. VS SSSR (4. s'ezd, 1954). Born in Tlukhi, 1904-1937-1947 narodnyi komissar finansov Gruz. SSR. 1953- minister finansov Gruz. SSR. Member CC CP Gruz. SSR.

Bak. Rab. 2/19/54
Zar. Vost. 2/13/54

646
2422 Virabian, Ninel' Avetisovna
Deputy to Sov. Nats. VS SSSR 4. sozyv, 1954. In 1948 completed Erevan agriculture inst.; increased vegetable production in kolkhoz im. Stalina where she is employed.

Kom Er. 3/19/54
2/19/54

535 3(?) Virsaladze, Simon Bagratovich, 1909-
Choreographer of various ballets. Stalin prize in 1949 for staging Glazunov's Raimonda, and also in 1951 for Kabalevskii's Sem'ia Tarasa. Did sets to operas W. Tell. E. Onegin.

BE II 8:152-3
Laur. Stalin. prem. 1950, p. 79

665
3 Vorob'ev, P. F.
CC CP Azerb. SSR, 20.s'ezd, 1954

2 Voskanian, S. A.
Member CC CP Arm. SSR, 18.s'ezd, 1956.

Kom. Er. 1/22/56

8: Lužbetak E-4 (no date) 1951 RH1 Caucasia RH1

585
535

Feasting, dancing and singing continue for the next two or three days. The guests are especially fond of their version of the *Lesghinka*.[29]

The newly-weds may not see each other till toward the close of the festivities. Finally the clapping of hoofs, cracks of pistols, and deep manly voices announce the return of the groom from his "hiding" place. He enters the bridal chamber, where his wife is waiting for him. The heart of a sheep, daintily roasted, lies hidden somewhere in the room. The groom or the bride begins to search for it and when found it is eaten by both. This little ceremony is to ensure marital concord.[30]

Jakovlev fails to mention two ceremonies which older authors include as important parts of a Chechen wedding. First of all, there is the custom of placing a child on the bride's lap with the wish that she too may before long give birth to a boy and become the mother of many children. Then there is the custom of walking round the hearth three times, a custom found among the Cherkess, Abkhaz, Ossetes, and the Ingushi,[31] but, as it seems, not among the other Chechens.

After the wedding the father of the bridegroom receives various gifts from the guests, sometimes enough to cover the expenses of the wedding.[32]

When speaking of the Lesghian group we shall not describe the customs of each people separately, but, as we have done in the section on engagements, we shall endeavour to present what may be called a *typical* Lesghian wedding. We shall borrow much from Kovalevskij's *Zakon i obyčaj na Kavkazě* (II, pp. 185—188), a description based on two reliable sources, L'vov and Bašir Dalgat, a native Caucasian. Though L'vov's article[33] is easily available, Dalgat's precious manuscript is not, and hence our recourse to Kovalevskij is mainly to get at Dalgat's valuable material. These two sources describe the Avarian and Dargwa marriage customs, but as Kovalevskij rightly points out, the description, except for a few accidentals, holds for *all* Lesghians. Other good articles on the present subject, which we shall use to complement Kovalevskij's two sources, are those of Gabiev, describing the wedding customs of the Laks,[34] of G. M. Amirov, describing the customs in North Daghestan,[35] of Fon-Plotto describing the Lesghians of Sakataly,[36] of Dubrovin describing the

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[29] The *Lesghinka* is a popular Caucasian dance, which originated, as its name implies, in Daghestan, and then was borrowed by all mountain tribes of the Caucasus, each tribe, of course, adding an original touch to the dance.

[30] Baddeley, *op. cit.*, I, p. 237.

[31] Dirr, AGKB, p. 25; Dubrovin, *Istorija*, I, i, p. 433.

[32] These contributions are perhaps of a relatively recent origin, as a result of Russian legislation against costly weddings.
The explorers are silent about the presence or absence of a proof of virginity. Even though the practice perhaps does not exist today, the possibility of its former existence cannot be denied, especially since the Ingush customs are very similar to those of the Ossetes.

[33] "Domašnjaja i semejnaja žizn Dagestanskich Gorcev," SSKG, III (1870), pp. 1—32.

[34] "Laki, Ich prošloe i byt," SMOMPK, XXXVI (1906), pp. 109 f.

[35] "Sredi gorcev severnago Dagestana," SSKG, VII (1873), pp. 31 f.

[36] "Priroda i ljudi Zakatal'skago Okruga," SSKG, IV (1871), pp. 31—44. Though the marriage Fon-Plotto describes is really that of the Georgian Ingiloi, according to the author's own observation, it is identical with that of all non-Georgians in Sakataly.